



# NEWS RELEASE

DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

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## **DFAS Employee Helps Resolve \$17 Million in Bills**

ARLINGTON, Va. (Nov. 27) – A Defense Finance and Accounting Service employee has been honored recently by the U.S. State Department for helping to resolve more than \$17 million dollars in outstanding bills.

In February Irene Hall, a staff accountant in the Field Assistance and Support Division of DFAS, joined a team of State Department representatives to resolve more than 200 open and disputed receivables incurred by the Department of Defense from the State Department since 1998. Her seven month effort, as the lead DFAS liaison, helped close each of the issues and ensured uninterrupted delivery of high quality, cost effective support to government agencies operating at U.S. diplomatic and Consular posts around the world, according to Assistant Secretary for Resource Management (Department of State) Christopher B. Burnham.

“I’m very proud of the accomplishment,” Hall said, “Working to resolve these issues helped the Department of Defense fulfill its obligations with the State Department. Closing these issues out where the State Department could be fully satisfied with the results demonstrates our ability to work together across agencies and ensure the agency’s financial responsibilities are met.”

The work accomplished by Hall and the State Department team also established more effective policies and procedures for resolving costs associated with International Cooperative Administrative Support Services. Through ICASS, the State Department recovers costs associated with supporting other agencies operating at U.S. Embassies and Consulates abroad. While initially tasked on an ad hoc basis, Hall will continue as liaison between DFAS and the State Department on issues relating to ICASS.

“DFAS professionals are world-class and work hard to provide the very best financial and accounting services to our customers in the Department of Defense and throughout the federal government,” said Thomas R. Bloom, the director of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service. “We’re very proud of Irene’s work with the State Department to help ensure Department of Defense obligations are met accurately and on time.”

### **About DFAS**

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service is the world’s largest finance and accounting operation. The agency disburses more than \$1.38 billion per average business day. In fiscal 2002, DFAS paid 5.4 million people, processed more than 10.6 million contractor and vendor invoices and handled nearly 7.3 million travel payments while reducing overall cost to customers by \$136 million. For more about the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, please visit <http://www.dfas.mil>.

For more information, please call 703-607-0122. Photo available upon request.